Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 015052
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY:TH
APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY
NEA - MR. ATHERTON
P - MR. HABIB
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O 230439Z JAN 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 015052

EXDIS - FOR CHARGE FROM CYRUS VANCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (SECRETARY CYRUS VANCE)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

REF: BEIRUT 251

1. YOU SHOULD URGENTLY CONVEY THE FOLLOWING ORAL RESPONSE FROM ME TO FOREIGN MINISTER BOUTROS:

2. BEGIN MESSAGE:

I APPRECIATE YOUR INVITATION TO INCLUDE BEIRUT IN THE TRIP PRESIDENT CARTER HAS ASKED ME TO MAKE TO THE MIDDLE EAST. PRESIDENT CARTER VERY MUCH WANTS ME TO VISIT LEBANON, BOTH BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL PLACE IT HAS LONG HELD IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MIDDLE EAST AND BECAUSE OF ITS RELEVANCE TO THE ISSUE OF A REGIONAL SETTLEMENT. THE

UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF PRESIDENT SARKIS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE TRAGIC CONFLICT IN LEBANON, AND I HAVE LOOKED FORWARD TO HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK DIRECTLY WITH HIM ABOUT THE SITUATION IN LEBANON AND IN THE MIDDLE EAST GENERALLY.

IF IT WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT, THEREFORE,

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I WOULD PLAN TO STOP IN LEBANON ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, ARRIVING AT APPROXIMATELY 1100 IN THE MORNING AND DEPARTING AT 1500 IN THE AFTERNOON ENROUTE FROM CAIRO TO AMMAN. I AM REASSURED BY YOUR ASSESSMENT THAT SECURITY CAN BE ARRANGED, AND IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE SECURITY PROBLEM TO A MINIMUM YOUR PROPOSAL OF A TRIP DIRECTLY TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE FROM THE AIRPORT SEEMS THE BEST ARRANGEMENT. THE LUNCH YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO PROPOSE WOULD BE VERY WELCOME.

I PLAN TO VISIT ISRAEL AND EGYPT PRIOR TO STOPPING AT BEIRUT, AND JORDAN, SYRIA AND SAUDI ARABIA SUBSEQUENTLY. I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING WHETHER THE TIMES I PROPOSE WOULD BE CONVENIENT FOR YOU. END MESSAGE.

3. WE WILL WANT A REPLY BY SUNDAY MORNING WASHINGTON TIME SO THAT THE FULL TRIP CAN BE ANNOUNCED - ABOUT MONDAY NOON, ASSUMING THE OTHER CAPITALS AGREE. PLEASE INFORM BOUTROS RE PLANNED TIME OF RELEASE.

HABIB

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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From: STATE
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770126/aaaaawsi.tel
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